



## State of Tennessee

### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 358

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Adrion Baird of Campbell County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Adrion Baird; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baird was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Adrion Baird was born in Elk Valley on October 16, 1932, to Phobe Hatmaker Baird and Aaron Baird, and was the youngest of seven children; and

WHEREAS, in his adolescence, Mr. Baird's family moved to Washington, where he graduated from high school and, later, entered the military; and

WHEREAS, he served with valor and distinction as a member of the United States Army during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, upon the conclusion of his military service, Mr. Baird attended Olympic College, Lee College, and George Peabody Teacher's College in Nashville, from which he earned his Master's degree; and

WHEREAS, during college, Adrion Baird was joined in marriage with his wife, Marylene, and they raised their daughters, Melissa and Connie, while Mr. Baird taught History in various schools; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baird was asked to serve as a member of the Georgia Department of Education, in which position he served with acumen and alacrity until his appointment to the United States Department of Education, at which he held a key position in the Office of Indian Education; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career, Adrion Baird often daydreamed about returning to his roots, which is chronicled in his book, *My Long Journey Home*, and those dreams came true when he retired in 1985; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement, Mr. Baird and his family settled on a thirty-five acre farm in the Davis Chapel Community, where he became an ardent farmer and beekeeper, and was known for sending out gifts of honey, peaches, apples, and vegetables to residents of Campbell County; and

WHEREAS, he also became a community leader in Campbell County, serving as a County Commissioner and as President of the Historical Society, and he played a significant role in the creation of the local animal shelter; recently, a plaque was placed in the animal shelter honoring the works of Mr. Baird; and

WHEREAS, Adrion Baird leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Adrion Baird, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Baird.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 358

ADOPTED: May 20, 2011

  
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RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2011

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR